

Halloween is a completely Judeo-Christian festival and Satanists should not celebrate it. The idea that Halloween evolved from Samhain (ancient pagan Druidic festival) is not true. [Beth Allison Barr is a professor and Director of Graduate Studies at Baylor University's history department:](#)

The traditions we associate with Halloween are medieval or early modern in their origin — not “pagan.”

First, we know that festivals commemorating saints (All Hallows Eve) existed in Europe by 800. We also know that these festivals were not created to supplant previously-existing pagan rituals.

The Irish world (which provides the origin of the Celtic feast Samhain) celebrated a feast for saints in April while the Germanic world (which did not recognize Samhain) celebrated in November.

What does this tell us? It tells us that the actual chronology of Halloween “contradicts the widely held view that the November date was chosen to Christianize the festival of Samhain” (Rogers).

In fact, John Mirk's Festial (the most popular orthodox sermon compilation in late medieval England) actually explains how “All Hallows Eve” came about. Pope Boniface IV converted the Roman Pantheon into a Christian church dedicated to saints and martyrs during the 7th century. This day was then commemorated as All Saints' Day.

While Mirk's story does tell about the Christian appropriation of a pagan temple, his narrative is firmly situated in a Christian event (the dedication of a new church) far removed from the Celtic world of Samhain. From this medieval perspective, **“Halloween” is a celebration of Christian triumph overpaganism, rather than a pagan holiday masquerading as Christian.**

Second, in the words of historian Ronald Hutton, we have “no idea” about what actually happened during the Celtic celebration of Samhain. Despite what you may have read...

[And this from Catholic Parent magazine:](#)

We've all heard the allegations: Halloween is a pagan rite dating back to some pre-Christian festival among the Celtic Druids that escaped church suppression. Even today modern pagans and witches continue to celebrate this ancient festival. If you let your kids go trick-or-treating, they will be worshipping the devil and pagan gods.

Nothing could be further from the truth. The origins of Halloween are, in fact, very Christian and rather American. Halloween falls on October 31 because of a Pope, and its observances are the result of medieval Catholic piety.

Halloween is a Catholic holiday that has nothing to do with ancient Celtic culture.

Furthermore, [sugar is very bad for you.](#) Look at the obesity epidemic in the Western world. Why honestly should we consider it fun to let our children eat unlimited amounts of these gross food products? That sends a very bad message about nutrition.

The sweetest thing our pagan ancestors ate was fruit. Sugar was not a part of our paleolithic diet. There are records of knowledge of sugar among the ancient Greeks and Romans, but only as an imported medicine, and not as a food. For example, [the Greek physician Dioscorides in the 1st century \(AD\) wrote:](#)

There is a kind of coalesced honey called *sakcharon* [i.e. sugar] found in reeds in India and Eudaimon Arabia [i.e. Yemen] similar in consistency to salt and brittle enough to be broken between the teeth like salt. It is good dissolved in water for the intestines and stomach, and can be taken as a drink to help relieve a painful bladder and kidneys.”

Pliny the Elder, a 1st-century (AD) Roman, also described sugar as strictly medicinal:

“Sugar is made in Arabia as well, but Indian sugar is better. It is a kind of honey found in cane, white as gum, and it crunches between the teeth. It comes in lumps the size of a hazelnut. Sugar is used only for medical purposes.”

Sugar cane was first grown extensively in medieval Europe during the period of Arab rule in Sicily beginning around the 9th century known as the Emirate of Sicily. In addition to Sicily, Spain which at the time was known as Al-Andalus was an important center of sugar production beginning in the 9th century.